

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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## Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products March 2013

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary March steel imports were **\$2.3 billion** (**2.2 million** metric tons) compared to the preliminary February totals of \$2.2 billion (2.2 million metric tons).

The March change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected increases primarily in reinforcing bars and oil country goods and decreases primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs. Increases occurred primarily with Canada and Mexico. Decreases occurred primarily with Brazil and Russia.

The year to date final statistics through February 2013 showed steel imports of 4.6 million metric tons compared with 5.0 million metric tons through February 2012. The largest commodity decreases occurred primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs; oil country goods; and plates in coils and increases occurred primarily in hot galvanized sheets and strips. The largest country decreases occurred primarily with Russia and Turkey. Increases occurred primarily with China.

### Notes:

**The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.**

*Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at [www.census.gov/trade](http://www.census.gov/trade). On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.*

*The next release is May 23, 2013.*